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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 1368  
INFO RUEHOO/CHINA POSTS COLLECTIVE 0456  
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 1121  
RUEHGH/AMCONSUL SHANGHAI 0382  
RUEHCN/AMCONSUL CHENGDU 0383  
RUEHSH/AMCONSUL SHENYANG 0392  
RUEHHK/AMCONSUL HONG KONG 0449  
RUEHIN/AIT TAIPEI 0336  
RUCPDOC/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHINGTON DC 0137  
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC 0247  
RHMFIS/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC 0063  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC 0424  
RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC 0420

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SENSITIVE  
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State for EAP/CM, EB/ESC, OES/ENV, INR/EAP;  
USTR for China Office  
Beijing for FCS, ESTH and DOE  
USDOE for Nuclear Energy/Miller, Lyons, Herczeg, Gillespie,  
McGinnis  
USDOE for NNSA/Baker, Black, Whitney, Huizenga, Bieniawski  
USDOE for PI/Sandalow, Yoshida, Cutler, Huangfu

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TAGS: ENRG TRGY SENV PREL PGOV CH

SUBJECT: U.S. AND CHINA HOLD FIRST PROBABILISTIC SAFETY ASSESSMENT  
WORKSHOP FOR NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS IN SHENZHEN, CHINA

REF: 09 STATE 129517

¶1. (SBU) Officials and nuclear energy experts from the United States and China convened in Shenzhen, Guangdong January 20-23 to share information and best practices for improving safety in the operation of nuclear power plants (NPPS). The workshop was a key cooperative activity that the U.S. Department of Energy and the Chinese National Energy Administration (NEA) agreed to organize during a meeting last August of the 5th U.S.-China Joint Coordinating Committee (JCC) under the Peaceful Uses of Energy Technology (PUNT) Agreement. As the first bilateral workshop organized around the theme of probabilistic safety assessment (PSA), the bulk of presentations and discussion at the workshop focused on the benefits and diverse applications of PSA, a risk assessment methodology that analyzes both the magnitude of a potential adverse consequence and the likelihood that such a consequence would occur.

¶2. (SBU) The U.S. delegation was led by the Deputy Director of Department of Energy (DOE) Office at Embassy Beijing and included an official from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and four nuclear safety experts employed by U.S. DOE laboratories. Chinese participants included officials from the National Energy Administration, the Ministry of Environmental Protection's National Nuclear Safety Administration (NNSA), experts from the China Nuclear Power Technology Research Institute, as well as representatives from leading nuclear power companies.

¶3. (SBU) The two sides agreed to a series of potential follow-on activities, subject to the availability of resources. These include other workshops that would address specific topics identified during the Shenzhen workshop and a pilot project at an existing and operating NPP in China that would bring together U.S. and Chinese technical teams to implement key safety projects.

¶4. (U) This cable was coordinated with the U.S. DOE delegation that attended the workshop.

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